Grade of Central Secretariat Service and Grade 'C Stenographers of Central Secretariat Stenographers Service with effect from 1.1.1986. The same revised pay scale will also be applicable to Assistants and Stenographers in other Organisations like Ministry of External Affairs which are not participating in the Central Secretariat Service and Central Secretariat Stenographers Service but where the posts are in comparable grades with same classification and pay scale and the method of recruitment through Open Competitive Examinination is also the same.

2. Pay of the Assistants and Grade 'C Stenographers in position as on 1.1.1986, shall be fixed in terms of Central Civil Service (Revised Pay) Rules 1986. The employees concerned shall be given •option to opt for the revised scale of pay from 1.1.1986 or subsequent date in terms of Rule 5 *ibid*, read with Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 7(52)-E.IH/86 dated 22.12.1986 & 27.5.1988 in the form appended to Second Schedule of the rule *ibid*. This option should be excercised within three months of the date of issue of this O.M. The option once excercised shall be final.

3. Formal amendment to CSS(RP) Rules, 1986 will be issued in due course.

4. This issues with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance, (Department of Expenditure) *vide* their U.O. No. 7(43)/ IC/89 dated 30.7.90.

(Sd./-) (Gurnihal Singh Pirzada) Under Secretary to the Govt, of India.

To
All Ministries/Departments.

Exemption under FERA to NRIs

410. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for granting general exemption under FERA to non-resident Indians for setting up industries in India; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER WITH MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) A proposal envisaging, *inter-alia*, grant of exemption under various provisions of FERA, 1973 for declaration of foreign currency assets held by the NRI if they choose to come to India for a temporary period for setting up industrial/business enterprises or taking up, specialised short term assignments, has been received. The matter is under examination.

Prices of Tea

411. DR, RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the trends of tea production and its prices in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the rising prices of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For improvement in tea production, Tea Board is providing financial assistance through various development schems. For expansion of tea cultivation in non-traditional areas also, financial assistance is-being given. Production of leading tea producing companies is being monitored to assess the performance vis-a-vis target set for them for 1990.

(c) To check the rising prices of tea, Government have taken the following steps:—

(i) Sales of tea at the auction is being regulated by the Tea Board so as to make sizeable quantities available for domestic consumption.

(ii) The producers have been asked to make available about 10 Million kgs of